DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814

March 3, 2003

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-09-03

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL
[ ] State Law Change
[ ] Federal Law or Regulation
Change
[ ] Court Order
[ ] Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties
[X] Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
             ALL CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
               PROGRAM MANAGERS
             CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: **INTRODUCTION OF THE STANDARDIZED CORE PROJECT**

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) in conjunction with the California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) is pleased to announce the Standardized Core Project Website. The website can be accessed at:
http://calswec.berkeley.edu/CalSWEC/StandardCoreProjectHome.html

History

To ensure that each child welfare worker in California is adequately trained with a competency-based, comprehensive training plan, Assembly Bill 2779 (Statutes of 1998, Chapter 329) appropriated general fund dollars to develop a standardized training curriculum for child welfare workers in California.

In partnership with CDSS, CalSWEC convened an advisory committee to develop the curriculum in August, 1999. The committee consisted of representatives from the CDSS, CalSWEC, County Welfare Directors Association, the Regional Training Academies, county child welfare training management, child welfare supervisory and line staff, child welfare consumers, foster parents, and labor unions. Collaborative teams drawn from this committee built the foundational curriculum and learning tools. CalSWEC will regularly revise this curriculum by updating it with evidence based, promising practices.

About the Standardized Core Project

The Standardized Core Project is part of a system of learning for child welfare workers that enhances statewide, professional child welfare practice. It is flexible, comprehensive and accessible.

❑   *Flexible:* Allows counties and Regional Training Academies to tailor material to their specific needs. New research and training methods are integrated as they emerge.

- ❑ *Comprehensive:* Measurable learning objectives are based upon the CalSWEC Title IV-E Competencies. Evaluation tools allow for constant improvement of training materials.
- ❑ *Accessible:* Provides web-based tools with curriculum resources that are updated systematically.

The Standardized Core Project is designed to guide new workers through a set of five training stages beginning with precaseload introduction. Upon completion of the training, the new worker should have obtained sufficient knowledge, skills and values to carry their first, independent child welfare caseload. The Standardized Core Project training system consists of eight major content areas. Those areas are:

1. Primary Child Welfare Skills
2. Social Work Skills
3. Human Behavior
4. Workplace Management
5. Legal Processes
6. Cultural Competence
7. Social Work Values
8. Ethics and Interdisciplinary Practice

About the Website

The Standardized Core Project website is a resource to trainers, supervisors, and mentors, as well as child welfare social workers. This website provides access to innovative learning tools including curriculum modules, on-the-job training guides, bibliographies, training activities, and internet links that access the latest research. The intended use of the website is not for online training, or an an alternative to county training programs, and regional training academies. Rather, it is designed to support and enhance these training programs.

Contact Information

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Elizabeth Newby, CDSS, Resources Development and Training Bureau, Training Unit at (916) 445-2755 or Marsha Carlson, CalSWEC at (510) 643-6400.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Sylviz Pizzini
SYLVIA PIZZINI
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division